

McWhorter, Scott

From: bradedward@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 9:59 AM
To: scott.enright@hawaii.gov
Cc: thomas.k.matsuda@hawaii.gov; Cooper, Pam; bradedward@aol.com
Subject: EPA's interpretation of Glyphosate Label and DOA's inability to cite another agency
Attachments: DOT1.JPG; DOT2.JPG

Aloha Scott,

I hope all is well. I spoke with Pam Cooper from the EPA office in California and she reported that the National EPA office got back to her regarding the EPA's evaluation of the language on the Glyphosate label that states "keep people and pets away until solution dries". According to Ms. Cooper the EPA is interpreting the label language exactly as it is written and they made it clear that steps must be taken to keep people and pets away until the solution dries.

In her discussions with Thomas Matsuda and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture she indicated that Mr. Matsuda informed her that they are working on coming up with alternatives. However, in the meantime he stated that there is nothing that they can do to force County and State agencies in Hawaii to follow the label as Hawaii law prevents one agency from taking a penalty action against another agency. I was able to read her the language on the Warning Notice that Thomas Matsuda sent to the Department of Transportation on September 3rd, 2015 that states that further violations will result in civil or criminal penalties. I have attached a copy of the Warning letter that your Department sent to the State DOT.

I was wondering if you could help clear up the conflicting information and provide me with the Hawaii Statute or Rule that prevents the your Department from issuing a civil or criminal penalty against another government agency? And can you specify if you are also prevented from issuing a civil or criminal penalty against both State & County Agencies in Hawaii, or is it just State agencies that you are prevented from citing? As you are aware, many of the current violations are coming from County Agencies around the State.

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Mahalo,
Brad Edwards